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Rochester, New York 14612  
12/30/05

Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commission :

I wish to urge you to support the petition for **captioned telephone service** being mandated by the FCC.

I have been deaf since age 20 ( 45 years) and tried very hard to fit into the worlds activities, earn a college degree and support my son. It was a real battle, trying to understand and hear. People have a propensity of labeling you "dumb" if you fail to understand something or remember it and when you explain that you are deaf and simply just didn't hear what was said , they then label you "handicapped".

Deaf people can do all the jobs. They just need the support instruments that are available today. Captioned telephone service is one. I have had so many phones with volume amplification and what ever! Yet these phones , while amplifying the volume, do nothing to help in understanding words. The jumbled mess just sounds louder --- there is no clarity to the words. To date, no systems exist that provide the clarity. So the captioned telephone system is the answer.

Please help us . Most of us are afraid to live alone, for without someone to "protect" our interests - to hear what we can NOT hear -- it is a scary thing.

By having the captioned telephone service, I will be able to understand my granddaughter when she calls -- she wont have to hollow in the phone and talk in simple short sentences --- but will be able to rattle on , as she does, about all the days activities. I wont make the mistake of thinking I heard 3 when I was told 2. Errors in numbers are the really big thing with deaf persons.

Thank you so much

*Marilyn A. Orzechoski*

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